

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 ALGIER 03111 161224Z

41

ACTION NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 W

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O 161135Z OCT 75

FM AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3191

S E C R E T ALGIERS 3111

NODIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, AG, US

SUBJECT: SECRETARY'S MESSAGE

REF: STATE 243904

1. EMBOFF SAW LUQMAN, DEPUTY DIRECTOR WESTERN EUROPEAN AND NORTH AMERICAN AFFAIRS, MFA, OCTOBER 16, AND DELIVERED SECRETARY'S MESSAGE TO BOUTEFLIKA. WE ALSO FORMALLY REQUESTED APPOINTMENT FOR ATHERTON WITH BOUMEDIENE. LUQMAN SAID THAT, IN BOUTEFLIKA'S ABSENCE (LAST EMBASSY HEARD HE IN GENEVA), HE WOULD DELIVER MESSAGE IMMEDIATELY TO MFA SECYGEN BENHABYLES AND WOULD BE IN TOUCH WITH US AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. HE THOUGHT MFA WOULD CONTACT PRESIDENCY WITHOUT WAITING FOR BOUTEFLIKA'S RETURN BUT WOULD OF COURSE PASS MESSAGE TO BOUTEFLIKA.

2. LUQMAN INDICATED IT UNLIKELY BOUTEFLIKA WOULD BE AVAILABLE FOR VISIT. ALTHOUGH THEORETICALLY DUE BACK IN ALGIERS ON OR ABOUT OCTOBER 18, LUQMAN NOTED THAT MINISTER HAD APPEARED VERY TIRED WHEN HE MADE HIS UNGA SPEECH. IT THEREFORE QUITE LIKELY, LUQMAN SPECULATED, THAT BOUTEFLIKA WOULD STOP OFF SOMEWHERE ON WAY BACK TO ALGIERS TO RECUPERATE.

PARKER

SECRET

NNN

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